

Application No.: 10/708,405

Docket No.: 22040-00029-US

REMARKS

Claims 1-6, 8-43, and 45-51 are now pending in this application. Claims 1, 4, 8, 9, 12-14, 17-21, 24-25, 28-30, 33, 38-39, and 45-47 are independent. Claims 7, and 44 have been canceled, and claims 47-51 have been added by this amendment. Claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 10, 11, 15, 16, 22, 23, 26, and 27 have been amended only as to form.

Claims 48-51 are multiply dependent.

Claim 47 represents the invention intended to be recited in original multi-dependent claim 7, now canceled. Newly presented multiply dependent claims 48-51 represent the invention intended to be recited in original multiply dependent claim 44, now canceled.

Two paragraphs of the Specification have been amended to remove references to specific claim numbers, as required by the MPEP.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims 1-6, 8-43, and 45-51 in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

For any fee that is due, particularly fees for excess claims, please charge our Deposit Account No. 22-0185, under Order No. 22040-00029-US from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Respectfully submitted,

By Larry J. Hume

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